

1. (Four Times Amended) A composition comprising the peptide:  
Y-W-S-A<sub>1</sub>-C-S-A<sub>2</sub>-C-G-X (SEQ ID NO: 9)

wherein Y and Z comprise:

- (a) N- and C- terminal ends of the peptide;  
(b) amino acid chains having less than 6 amino acids; or  
(c) chains of compounds which are not amino acids,

wherein A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub> are amino acid sequences comprising 1 to 5 amino acids (SEQ ID NOS: 97-168) and further wherein the peptide is not selected from the group consisting of:

- W-S-P-C-S-V-T-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:2),  
-W-S-S-C-S-V-T-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:3), and  
-W-S-Q-C-S-V-T-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:4).

5. (Thrice Amended) The peptide according to claim 3, wherein said peptide comprises at least the following amino acid sequence:

-W-S-X<sub>1</sub>-W-S-X<sub>3</sub>-C-S-A<sub>2</sub>-C-G-, denoted SEQ ID NOS:7 and 89-96, wherein, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>3</sub> are independently selected from G, S and C.

6. (Twice Amended) The peptide according to claim 4, wherein said peptide comprises the following amino acid sequence:

-W-S-G-W-S-S-C-S-R-S-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:8).

Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found throughout the application as originally filed, including page 3, line 33 through page 4, line 2 and originally filed claim 7.

A marked up version showing the additions to the claims in bold and underline and deletions from the claims bracketed and in bold is attached at the end of this Amendment.

### REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-24 are pending in the present application. Claims 2-4, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 21, 23 and 24 have been withdrawn from consideration as